

MISSIONS SUNDAY  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 14, 2021  
10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

---

Prelude: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (arr. Craig Phillips)

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 47 (Carolyn Miller)

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 80: *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon

Songs of Adoration: *Si tuvieras fé; He Reigns; Jalali Yesu*

Time of Prayer

*Please feel free sit, stand, or kneel as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.*

Scripture Reading: John 4:4-26

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 491: *Make Us, O God, a Church that Shares*

Sermon: **“Now he had to go through Samaria.”  
A challenge to the Church to actually follow Jesus**  
Rev. Myron Glick

Song: *Facing a Task Unfinished*

Benediction

---

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Jon Arensen

Music Ministry Team:

Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Matt Cox, guitar & vocals; Dan Zambrano, cajon

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** To be a follower of Christ is to care about the world—the world far beyond us and the world near to us. On this Missions Convention weekend, may God give us a renewed sense of his compassion and grace for the whole world.

**TODAY** we are privileged to hear from Dr. Myron Glick, Director of Jericho Road Ministries in Buffalo. We look forward to hearing the word that God has placed on his heart.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:** This Wednesday, February 17, at 6:30pm, we will stream last year's Ash Wednesday Service. We realize that we will miss the imposition of ashes, but it is an opportunity to enter the Lenten Season in gratitude and contemplation.

**THURSDAY EVENING:** This Thursday, February 18, at 6:30pm, you are invited to stream a conversation with Steve and Ruth Strand about the ministry of God and his people in the city of Buffalo.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** is the First Sunday in Lent. Pastor Wes, thinking this Lenten season about Jesus's Words in Preparation for the Cross, leads us to ponder Jesus's declaration: *I Am He* (John 18:5). Next Sunday's service will be streamed at 10:00 a.m. We will also gather in the church parking lot at 11:15 a.m.

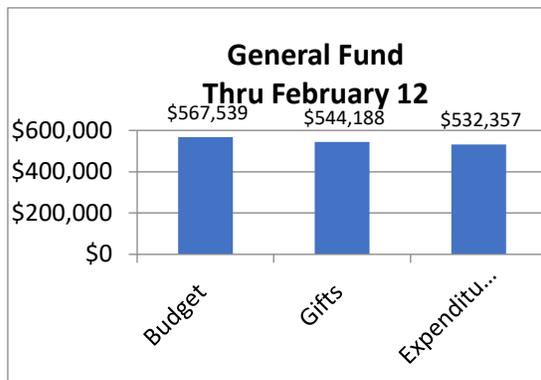
**STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed: \$567,539.28 / Budget Received: \$544,187.82**

**MISSION MOMENT** – This is a moment, every February, when we as a church re-enlarge our vision of mission outreach. The new Global Mission Directory in your mail this week shares a glimpse of all our supported workers near and far. Please pray for their health, safety and success in sharing the Good News of Christ for a time like this.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – We normally focus on churches far away in tough situations, but as Dr. Glick reminds us today, and the Buffalo panel will remind us Thursday (6:30 p.m. streaming), Christ has placed us all in the midst of a suffering world where we must let our lights shine and glorify the Father. We pray for all our urban churches in overcoming the obstacles in the way of fulfilling that task.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Karen Gaerte, Lenore Paige, Kathy Moore, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Amy Ortiz (Luke Ogden's sister), Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, Wendy Ott, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Cindy Lastoria, Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor's cousin), Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter; for all effected by the coronavirus—grieving, ill, healthcare professionals, the workforce at risk and leaders; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the Riverside Assembly of God, Wellsville (Pastor John Francisco).

### STEWARDSHIP – A Life of Generosity



Why is giving important?

Giving shows God is Lord of our lives. It demonstrates that we understand that everything we own and everything we have comes from God. So, when we give, we simply offer him a small portion of the abundance he has already given to us. Giving is an expression of our thankfulness and praise to God and comes from a heart of worship.

We are blessed when we give. God wants us to give because he knows we will be blessed when we give generously to him and to others. Giving is a paradoxical kingdom principle – it brings more blessing to the giver than to the recipient. The blessing is not necessarily material possessions, but the

greater blessing of experiencing the greater gift of a deeper awareness of Christ's presence in our lives.

At HWC, we focus on missions during the month of February. Did you know that nearly 20 percent of the overall annual budget expenditures goes directly towards missions? This includes funding for a variety of local and international ministries along with commitments to specific individuals, couples, and missionary families. That means that 20 cents of every dollar you contribute to the church supports mission work. One local example is the Daily Bread Initiative serving Fillmore Central School which has a school-age poverty rate of 31.8%. This program ensures that students have enough food over breaks (when free breakfasts and lunches are not available) by providing bags of snacks and easy meals for families in need.

Living generously begins in gratitude to God which radiates out to others. Just as he blesses us out of his loving kindness, we also bless. A generous heart will be rewarded by blessing others.

*"Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God."* 2 Cor. 9:11 NLT